

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for producing plane-parallel platelets, comprising the steps of:

a) coating a partial surface of a rigid carrier with a separating agent and at least one product layer, said rigid carrier being rotatable about an axis normal to the partial surface, said rigid carrier being disposed in a vacuum chamber,

b) transporting said partial surface by rotation of said rigid carrier,

c) stripping said product layer from said partial surface of said rigid carrier, such that plane-parallel platelets are produced, wherein steps a), b) and c) are performed continuously and concurrently on different partial surfaces of said rigid carrier.

2. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein said separating agent coating said partial surface of said rigid carrier is an inorganic separating agent applied in step a) prior to application of said product layer, and said inorganic separating agent is dissolved in step c).

3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein in step a) at least two product layers are applied on said partial surface for opposite sides of said rigid carrier.

4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein steps a) to c) are performed during one rotation of said rigid carrier.

5. (Previously Presented) A process for producing plane-parallel platelets, comprising the steps of:

a) coating a partial surface of a rigid carrier with a separating agent and at least one product layer, said rigid carrier being rotatable about an axis normal to the partial surface, said rigid carrier being disposed in a vacuum chamber,

b) transporting said partial surface by rotation of said rigid carrier,

c) stripping said product layer from said partial surface of said rigid carrier, such that plane-parallel platelets are produced, wherein steps a) and b) are performed during at least one rotation of said rigid carrier for each of said separating agent and said at least one product layer and are followed by step c).

6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein steps a), b) and c) are performed at a constant angular velocity of said rigid carrier.

7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the coating a partial surface is performed under vacuum in step a).

8. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An apparatus for producing plane-parallel platelets, ~~in particular~~ for implementing the process according to claim 1, comprising:

a rigid carrier disposed in a vacuum chamber, said rigid carrier having a partial surface and being rotatable about an axis normal to the partial surface,

separator coating means for coating said rigid carrier with a separating agent;

product coating means for coating said partial surface of said rigid carrier with at least one product layer over said separating agent,

stripping means for stripping said product layer from said partial surface of said rigid carrier such that plane-parallel platelets are produced, wherein

said partial surface between said product coating means and said stripping means is transported by rotation of said rigid carrier.

9. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein an intermediate separation for creating two pressure stages is disposed between said coating means and said stripping means.

10. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said separating agent is an inorganic separating agent and is evaporable under vacuum without dissociation, said product layers include metals, oxides, fluorides or carbides, and said rigid carrier comprises metal, glass, enamel, ceramic, or an organic material.

11. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said rigid carrier comprises an open or closed substantially axi-symmetric disc.

12. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said rigid carrier comprises several open or closed, rotationally symmetrical, rigid bodies which rotate about a common axis or about several axes.

13. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said rigid carrier (5) comprises several parallel discs of which at least one may be coated face-and-back by said product coating means.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein said separating agent coating said partial surface of said rigid carrier is an organic separating agent

applied in step a) prior to application of said product layer, and said organic separating agent is melted or dissolved in step c), thereby producing non-cohering product flakes.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Withdrawn) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said separating agent is a meltable or soluble organic separating agent,
said product layers include metals, oxides, fluorides or carbides, and
said rigid carrier comprises metal, glass, enamel, ceramic, or an organic material.